

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2913

Introduced by Assembly Member Frommer

February 24, 2006

An act relating to school facilities to amend Section 44280 of the Education Code, relating to teacher credentialing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2913, as amended, Frommer. ~~School facilities: small schools. Teaching credentials: subject matter examinations: Armenian language.~~

~~Existing law, the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998, requires the State Allocation Board to allocate to applicant school districts prescribed funding for construction of school facilities, including funding for site development and acquisition.~~

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to encourage the construction of small schools by establishing a system of incentives that address the high per capita costs of running a small school, as described, and to encourage large schools to reorganize into smaller learning communities.~~

Existing law requires the adequacy of subject matter preparation and the basis for assignment of certified personnel in public schools to be determined by the successful passage of a subject matter examination, as specified. Existing law authorizes the commission to establish guidelines for accepting assessments performed by organizations, as specified, to determine the adequacy of that preparation in languages for which there is no adequate examination. Existing law requires the commission to submit an expenditure plan

for the development of a subject matter examination in the Filipino language to the Department of Finance and to contract with an entity for the development, for certification by the commission, a subject matter examination in the Filipino language, to be administered no later than September 1, 2008.

This bill would require the commission to submit an expenditure plan for the development of a subject matter examination in the Armenian language to the Department of Finance no later than January 1, 2007. The bill would require the commission, upon approval of that plan, as specified, and subject to an appropriation in the Budget Act of 2007 for this purpose, to contract with another entity for that entity to develop, for certification by the commission, a subject matter examination in the Armenian language, to be administered no later than September 1, 2009.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 44280 of the Education Code is
2 amended to read:
3 44280. (a) The adequacy of subject matter preparation and
4 the basis for assignment of certified personnel shall be
5 determined by the successful passage of a subject matter
6 examination as certified by the commission, except as
7 specifically waived as set forth in Article 6 (commencing with
8 Section 44310) ~~of this chapter~~. For the purpose of determining
9 the adequacy of subject matter knowledge of languages for which
10 there are no adequate examinations, the commission may
11 establish guidelines for accepting alternative assessments
12 performed by organizations that are expert in the language and
13 culture assessed. The commission shall submit an expenditure
14 plan for the development of a subject matter examination in the
15 Filipino language to the Department of Finance no later than
16 January 8, 2006. Upon approval of the expenditure plan by the
17 Department of Finance and the Secretary for Education, and
18 subject to an appropriation in the Budget Act of 2006 for this
19 purpose, the commission shall contract with another entity for
20 that entity to develop, for certification by the commission, a

1 subject matter examination in the Filipino language, to be
2 administered no later than September 1, 2008.

3 *(b) The commission shall submit an expenditure plan for the*
4 *development of a subject matter examination in the Armenian*
5 *language to the Department of Finance no later than January 1,*
6 *2007. Upon approval of the expenditure plan by the Department*
7 *of Finance and the Secretary for Education, and subject to an*
8 *appropriation in the Budget Act of 2007 for this purpose, the*
9 *commission shall contract with another entity for that entity to*
10 *develop, for certification by the commission, a subject matter*
11 *examination in the Armenian language, to be administered no*
12 *later than September 1, 2009.*

13 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~
14 ~~legislation to encourage the construction of small schools, where~~
15 ~~feasible, by establishing a system of incentives that address the~~
16 ~~high per capita costs of running a small school. It is further the~~
17 ~~intent of the Legislature to encourage large schools to reorganize~~
18 ~~into smaller learning communities. For purposes of this section, a~~
19 ~~small school is an elementary school with no more than 400~~
20 ~~pupils, a middle school with no more than 800 pupils, or a high~~
21 ~~school with no more than 1500 pupils.~~